**ADA Training for VR Agency Staff**

One of the services many VR agencies are offering to their local business community is training on Title 1 of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) – the employment title. There are many ways for VR staff to get up to speed on ADA requirements that are most relevant to the employment process.

One great place to start is with your regional ADA Information Center, each of which can provide training to VR staff as well as fact sheets and other resources that can be shared. You can find your regional center on the ADA National Network website: <http://adata.org/>. That website also has lots of fact sheets, FAQs, training links, and other resources on Title 1 <https://adata.org/topic/employment-ada-title-i>.

The New England ADA Center offers several free online training courses on various aspects of the ADA, including Title 1. You can find those courses here: <http://learn.newenglandada.org/>

More in-depth training is available from the ADA Trainer Network (<https://www.northeastada.org/trainernetwork/login.cfm>). This extensive “train-the-trainer” program covers all of the Titles of the ADA and may be more complete than necessary for a VR agency providing support to employers; but some agencies may want to have one or more staff who go through the training and can function as in-house ADA experts. Here is information about the ADA TN from the Northeast ADA Center website:

“The ADA Trainer Network (ADA TN) is a group of individuals across the nation who use a curriculum provided by the ADA National Network to educate local communities about the ADA. As our partners, they help to spread the word about the rights and responsibilities of employers, service providers, municipal entities, and private businesses under the ADA. There are more than 40 modules in the curriculum, each with its own facilitator's guide. The curriculum covers all Titles of the ADA, as well as disability awareness, serving customers with disabilities, and information about accessible technology. ADA TN members participate in "train-the-trainer" events through their regional ADA Center to learn to effectively deliver the materials, including how to customize training sessions to particular audience needs. We believe ADA TN members are excellent resources within their communities and that the trainings they offer help foster relationships between individuals with disabilities and entities with responsibilities under the ADA locally.”